

**ATOFINA Petrochemicals, Inc.**

**FAX**

Attention: Examiner Cheung  
Company: USPTO  
From: Tenley Krueger  
Date: September 23, 2004  
Fax Number: 703-872-9306  
Number of Pages: (including this one) 3

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**SEP 23 2004**

**Examiner Cheung:**

Attached is a summary of points we would like to discuss during our interview on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. Expert Ken Blackmon will also be in attendance and we look forward to meeting with you.

Serial No. 10/044,759

Title: Method for Removing Volatiles from a Block Copolymer

Filed: January 9, 2002



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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**SEP 23 2004**

In re Application of:	§
Daumerie, et al.	§
Serial No.: 10/044,759	§ Group Art Unit: 1713
Confirmation No.: 8362	§
Filed: January 9, 2002	§ Examiner: Cheung
For: Method for Removing Volatiles from a Block Copolymer	§
	§
	§
	§

**DRAFT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 18, 2004**

In response to the Office Action dated August 18, 2004, the following points are proposed for consideration and discussion.

**DISCUSSION POINTS**

**CLAIM SUMMARY:**

- a. passing block copolymerization product through a first devolatilizer at low P to form once devolatilized copolymer; and
- b. passing the once devolatilized copolymer from first devolatilizer to a conduit.

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**CLAIM REJECTIONS:**

a. **Klussmann- No block copolymer**

*Klussman* teaches formation of polystyrene chains grafted onto a polybutadiene backbone. *Klussman* nowhere teaches or suggests forming or processing block copolymers, as recited by the instant claims. The process of *Klussman* is further distinguished from the claimed process in that *Klussman* is crosslinking and the instant claims are devolatilizing under gentle conditions to specifically avoid crosslinking. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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